

it is a very fine building. I can point my hon. friend to many buildings around the city which are being erected by private individuals under architects of skill and experience, and yet if these were public buildings I am sure they would be strongly criticised. I will not mention any one, but hon. gentlemen who have been about the city will no doubt have remarked some of them. At all events, we have thought it best, under all the circumstances, to place the responsibility for this work in the hands of our own staff. I may say to my hon. friend that before we reach the items for public buildings chargeable to capital account, I hope to place the plans upon the table for the inspection of the House.

Mr. FOSTER. The minister might give us an idea of the style of architecture.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I have not seen the plans as finally adopted by the chief architect. He has promised to have them ready for me in the course of a few days, when I will bring them before the House.

Mr. HAGGART (Lanark). The Minister of Public Works has promised to perform all that is required of him by this House. Heretofore the plans of the various public buildings in the city of Ottawa have always been laid on the table of the House for our inspection. We are all, as the hon. member states, proud of the public buildings here in Ottawa, and we have always exercised the right to see the plans and to know what the Minister of Public Works intends to do in reference to them. Sometimes it has happened that opinions expressed in the House have had the effect of altering the plans. There is no blame to be attached to the Minister of Public Works because he did not adopt the plans he advertised for; he had prepared amended plans, which, he says, he will lay on the table of the House. He intends, before a vote is taken, submitting them to the House for our inspection.

THE FISCAL POLICY OF CANADA.

Mr. NEELY. I wish to ask a question which concerns the Postmaster General, and which refers to a report which appears in this morning's issue of the Ottawa 'Citizen,' and also of the Montreal 'Gazette.' The Postmaster General, speaking last night at the annual banquet of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, is credited with the following statement regarding the fiscal policy of this country:—

Our commercial ascendancy, thanks to the wise fiscal policy adopted by this country twenty-five years ago, is the admiration of the world to-day.

I rise to ask the Postmaster General if he did make that statement, and if he does

Mr. PUGSLEY.

consider that this country has had but one fiscal policy during the last twenty-five years.

Mr. LEMIEUX. My attention has been drawn to the report published in the Montreal 'Gazette,' and in the Ottawa 'Citizen.' I notice there is a difference between the report published in the French papers and that published in the English papers. In the Montreal French papers of this morning I am quoted as having said that it was the policy adopted fifteen years ago; and that is in fact what I said. There is only a difference in figures, the English papers have a two instead of a one. Besides I may say that there was no fiscal policy adopted twenty-five years ago, the policy of protection was adopted thirty-two years ago, and the only other policy since adopted was the Fielding tariff of 1897. If my hon. friend will read the remarks made by the leader of the opposition on the same occasion, he will find that the leader of the opposition spoke of my reference to the fiscal policy of fifteen years ago, and he said I should have gone a little further back to get at the origin of our fiscal policy—these are about his words—they have practised what we have been preaching.

Mr. FOSTER. When my hon. friend said fifteen years ago he was nearer right than he thought he was.

Mr. LEMIEUX. I do not wish to express any opinion, but merely to correct the statement.

WITHDRAWAL OF GOVERNMENT BILLS.

Mr. HENDERSON. A few moments ago the Minister of Labour (Mr. King) placed before you a motion to withdraw from the Order Paper two Bills, one relating to the manufacture of matches and the other relating to the importation of opium. We are not very sure whether these are the Bills he introduced last evening or whether they are the Bills that were introduced prior to his placing on the Order Paper the resolution on which they were based.

Mr. KING. The Bills I asked to have withdrawn were those placed on the Order Paper prior to giving notice of the resolutions which were passed last night.

FISH POACHERS ON PACIFIC COAST.

Mr. BARNARD. I would like to call the attention once more of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to the depredations, regular and constant, of American poachers upon the fisheries on the coast of the province of British Columbia, and more particularly on the west coast of Vancouver island. I brought this matter to his attention on the 16th of December last, and